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NEWS DEPARTMENT

Historical Association Meeting.

The annual meeting of the Pacific Coast Branch of the American Historical Association was held in Portland, Oregon, November 25 and 26th, Professor Robert Carlton Clark, of the University of Oregon, presiding.

During the Friday session papers were read by Miss Olive Kuntz, of Reed College, who received a Ph. D. degree in History at the University of Washington last year and Professor Richard F. Scholz, now President of Reed College, who had been for the past two years Professor of Ancient History in the University of Washington.

The Association adopted a resolution in which it voiced approval of the plan for a reduction of armament offered by Mr. Hughes, Secretary of State; and expressed their hope for a settlement of future international disputes "by orderly process rather than by the destructive and irrational methods [of war]". The Association also adopted a resolution endorsing the movement for the reconstruction of the old Hudson Bay Stockade at Vancouver, Washington.

The University of Washington was represented at this meeting by Professor Oliver H. Richardson and Professor Henry S. Lucas.

For the year 1921-22 Professor Payson Jackson Treat, of Stanford University, was elected President. To the Council of the Association were added Professor Henry S. Lucas, of the University of Washington and Dr. Olive Kuntz, of Reed College.

Searching County Records.

The time is coming when the official records at county court houses in the Pacific Northwest will be carefully searched for genealogical and historical information. Newspapers, pamphlets and memories of pioneers have thus far furnished the main sources for research. County, city and state archives slowly grow in the meantime. It has been the same way in the older communities where many studies of the official records are now being made. One interesting evidence of this condition is *The County Court Note-Book*, published at Bethesda, Montgomery County, Maryland. Volume I., No. 1 of this "Little Bulletin of History and Genealogy"

has just been received by this *Quarterly*. The editor is Mrs. Milnor Ljungstedt. Her program is that of an earnest, intelligent and industrious gleaner in out-of-the-way corners for items that will serve both causes of genealogy and history. The work is now being done in the counties bordering both sides of the Mason and Dixon Line, although the editor has formerly searched similar records in other states. The little journal costs but one dollar a year.

Memorial Trees.

Armistice Day bids fair to become a great tree-planting day in America. Here in the Northwest educational institutions have all observed that feature of the anniversary by planting trees in memory of former students and graduates who gave their lives in the World War. By far the greatest effort in that line in 1921 was the beginning made on the planting of one thousand elms along the highway between Seattle and Tacoma. The beauty of the years held in such an achievement is different to anticipate at the time of planting the trees.

Ninety-first Birthday.

Ezra Meeker, famous as the marker of the Oregon Trail, had a public celebration of his ninety-first birthday in Seattle on December 29, 1921. The Borrowed Time Club members were special guests. The occasion was made memorable by several happy speeches and the singing of old-time songs.

Interest in Idaho History.

Mr. John S. Richards, Librarian of the Idaho Technical Institute, Pocatello, and Miss Gantt, City Librarian of the same place, took the initiative to centralize the local interest in history. A meeting was assembled and enough interest was manifested to go ahead with the efforts, which may result in the foundation of a branch of the Idaho State Historical Society. They have begun to collect manuscripts and other materials of historical value.

Historical Relic at Whitman College.

Dr. Howard R. Keylor, a member of the Board of Overseers of Whitman College, has presented the museum of that institution an interesting relic. *The Whitman College Pioneer* describes it as the swivel end of a brass howitzer which was used by the Oregon

volunteers in 1848 to punish the Indians who had taken part in the Whitman massacre. It is said that the howitzer blew up killing two men by the explosion. The fragment was found by Gilbert Blue on the Keylor ranch near Whitman Station.

Gift of Books

Mrs. Sabina Morton, widow of the late General Charles Morton, U. S. A., has presented to the University of Washington library a number of books from General Morton's library. They are mainly technical volumes and will be of distinct service to the Department of Military Instruction.